

ACE CARTER!

By MIKE LANGLEY ^{88/89} Luton 1 Millwall 2

SO ENDS an awful week for Luton. Hardly had one defender been done by the magistrates for kerb-crawling than the other four were done by Millwall for sleep-walking.

Luton awoke in the second half, but just too late. Carter had got them!

He was too quick for offside-happy opponents listening in vain for the usual torrent of instructions from suspended skipper Foster.

Horne's free-kick was shuttled across the goal-mouth by Cascarino and Sheringham, and then Carter, blessed with the ability to shoot with no backlift, flashed it in.

Carter's rifled finish made the second goal almost a photostat — except that Thompson played the through ball and Cascarino's pass was a miskick.

This fixture is forever identified with crowd trouble but instead we got treble. Millwall have beaten Luton twice in the League and once in the FA Cup this season.

Before the home fans could riot, Hurlock pacified them by shoving Black and so allowing Wilson to fire an unstoppable penalty.

Luton then pulled an ace out of their dug-out. He

looked like Derek Dooley, the old Sheffield Wednesday hero — a large, awkward lad who moves as if wearing odd boots but is somehow always where the ball breaks.

His very first touch, a hook from Harford's flick, stretched Horne into a save. His second was a header, almost in at the other post.

His third was another header stopped only by a punch over the bar.

The name — and I'm sure you'll need to remember it — is Dowie, a full-time pro only since Christmas. Qualifications

Treble up for Lions

— 100 goals in two seasons for Hendon.

Oh, how Dowie and Harford and Black fought for an equaliser. But right at the end we were reminded of the reason for Luton needing one.

Their defence melted, leaving Cascarino a free header that he wasted.

Cracker

Millwall manager John Docherty said: "The Arsenal result keeps the pot boiling. We won't let them run away with the title — and there's no argument that we deserved to win on this difficult artificial surface.

"But Carter was the ace up our sleeve. He had two years on plastic at QPR and his first goal was a cracker."

LUTON: Sealey 7 — Breacker 7, McDonough 6, Beaumont 6, Grimes 6 — Wilson 7, Hill 5, Preece (wdn) 6 — Wegerle (inj) 5, Harford 7, Black 6. Subs: * DOWIE 8, Dreyer.

MILLWALL: Horne 8 — McLeary 7, Thompson 7, Wood 7, Sparham 7 — * CARTER 9, Briley 8, Hurlock 8, O'Callaghan 8 — Cascarino 7, Sheringham 7.

Ref: J. Worrall 7.